policy stipulates that Tourism should help to preserve, retain and enrich our world-view and life-style, our cultural expressions and heritage in all its manifestations. The development process should meet the following cardinal principles:

(i) It should involve the local community and lead to the overall economic development of the area.

(ii) It should identify the likely conflicts between resource use for tourism and the livelihood of local inhabitants and attempt to minimise such conflicts.

(iii) The type and scale of tourism development should be compatible with the environment and sociocultural characteristics of the local community.

(iv) It should be planned as a part of the overall area development strategy, guided by an integrated land-use plan and associated with commensurate expansion of public services.

(d) The Government as well as the private sector have to follow a set of Guidelines for the successful development of tourism.

Decline in Domestic and International Tourist Traffic

1442. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any sudden decline in domestic and international tourist traffic to Jammu and Kashmir this year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of domestic foreign tourists expected to visit Jammu and Kashmir during the current year; and

(d) the foreign exchange likely to be earned during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Doest not arise.

(c) As per the estimates of Government of Jammu and Kashmir, about 66.80 lakhs domestic and foreign tourists are expected to visit the State during the year 2004.

(d) Information regarding the foreign exchange earned by the State Government is not maintained.

Upkeep of Dal Lake

1443. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on maintaining and upkeep the 'Dal Lake' in Jammu and Kashmir during the last three years;

(b) the amount likely to be spent during the current year; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to increase the hotel accommodation and security of the tourist during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) The creation/ development of tourist infrastructure is primarily undertaken by the State Government/Union Territory Administrations. The Department of Tourism, however, provides financial assistance for Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits, Products/Infrastructure & Destination Development and assistance for Large Revenue Generating Projects identified in consultation with them.

During the last three financial years no such proposal for development of Dal Lake has been received from Jammu and Kashmir Government in the Ministry of Tourism. No such proposal has been received for the current financial year either by the Ministry of Tourism.

Privatisation of Water Resources and Water Monopolies

1441. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have accepted the principle of social ownership of water and equal rights over water; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to stop privatisation of water resources and water monopolies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.